

July 9, 2012

Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

I urge your support of AB 57 (Beall). AB 57 will make several overdue changes to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) governing board.

The geographic area covered by MTC today includes the nine bay area counties and three of the state's ten largest cities however; of the three cities only the Mayor of San Francisco is able to appoint a voting member to the commission. AB 57 will add two seats to the commission and those seats will be appointed by the Mayors of San José and Oakland.

Since the MTC was created in 1970, the Bay Area has seen significant changes in population, employment, and travel patterns with the most dramatic changes occurring in the South Bay as the City of San José and the Silicon Valley have grown. Today, San José is the largest city in Northern California, third largest city in the State, and 10th largest in the country. San José and Santa Clara County make up more than 25% of the Bay Area's population and nearly 30% of the region's jobs. Over the next 30 years, San José and Santa Clara County are expected to experience more population and job growth than any other part of the Bay Area.

As we work together to implement the requirements of SB 375, much of the development will be shifted to our urban core near public transportation which means San José, Oakland, and San Francisco will be asked to absorb much of this growth in housing and jobs. To effectively implement SB 375, San José and Oakland need to join San Francisco at the table. We ask for your support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chuck Reed

Chuck Reed
Mayor

Cc: Assemblymember Jim Beall
Steve Heminger, MTC Executive Director
Michael Burns, VTA General Manager